IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

Fall Issue

November 2014

Bark Lake Cultural Developments

Charitable No. 80487 0087 RR0001

Board of Directors -
Carol Simmons
Lorne Buckingham
George Simmons
Kathy Mansfield
Barry Simmons
Robert Hancock
Michael Roots
Melissa Simmons-Biskup
Fred Simmons

church@IrondaleOntario.ca

~Rentals~

Irondale Church for your next function? contact one of those above or Carol 705-457-8438

Irondale Community Centre

Advisory Committee
of
Minden Hills Council

Committee members -
Jean Neville (Councillor)
Rick Ratcliffe
Barry Simmons
George Simmons
Chris James
Jane Wilson
Maxine Marr

centre@IrondaleOntario.ca

~Rentals~

Rentals for the centre or the big tent can be booked thru
Barry Simmons 705-447-2380

To My Friends of Irondale

submitted by Ken Sanderson of Wilberforce

Reading about picking blueberries among the massive rock formation along the Bark Lake Road bring back many memories. Memories that are not necessarily about picking wild blueberries at Irondale but trying to protect them and the few inhabitants around.

Work at Elmer Alderitge's saw mill just north of Wilberforce had just started on Monday morning. Harold Herlihey, owner and operator of the Wilberforce Lumber Co. arrived and ordered all operations closed, all employees to immediately load into a waiting bus at Wilberforce to fight the massive forest fire raging between Donald and Bark Lake.

Leaving my '52 Chev parked in town—keys and all, I boarded the bus expecting a days struggle.

At the Bark Lake Training Centre, I left my coat and extras and headed up the lake. We carried 100' length hoses to a point considered safe. With gas driven "Way-Jack" pumps positioned at the lake, we joined about 10 hoses together and pumped water into a huge war canoe. Another pump was stationed there with intake into the canoe. More hose were carried into the forest nearing the fire and water was sprayed to dampen the foliage and slow the fire. Two fires were advancing and sounded like bull dozers coming—not a pleasant sound.

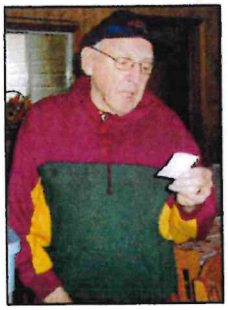
Continued pg 5

Bucket of Tickets — all possible winners …

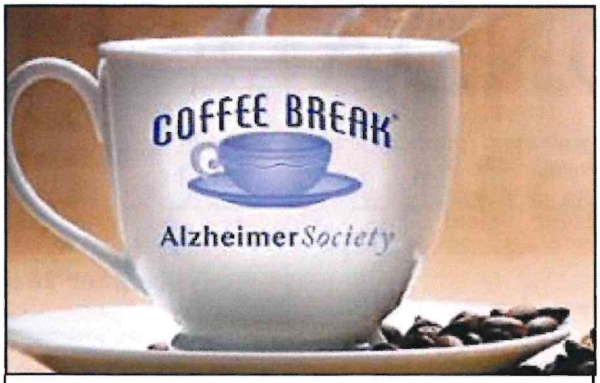
Rev. Arnold Hancock digs deep and the first name out of the bucket is …..

Granddaughter Emma reaches way down and comes up with …..

Dad's turn now. No peeking Mark ….



Grandpa Hancock returns to pull the final ticket
Get all the details on page 4



The Irondale community came together on the weekend of September 20 & 21.
We enjoyed cups of fresh coffee with all donations going to the Alzheimer Society of Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland & Haliburton.

THANK YOU
to Heather & Mark Penman of the I.B.O. General Store for hosting.

Please save your Canadian Tire Money

Since our last newsletter, your generosity has helped us topple the 200 mark. **$ 236.60** in Canadian Tire money has been collected. Thank You!

The outside of the Irondale Church will get a 'facelift' come spring of 2015. Your Canadian Tire money will go a long way in purchasing paint supplies and tools.

You can turn your Canadian Tire Money into any Bark Lake Cultural Development board member, drop it into the IBO General Store or mail it to P.O. Box 113, Irondale, ON K0M 1X0

Thank You.

ARE YOU A POSTAGE HERO ?

Does your business have a postage meter ? Would you be interested in donating the postage or part of it?

Please leave a message for the editor at simmons03@gmail.com or 705-457-8438

Thank You

Elvis Tribute Artist—Dorian Baxter

The King of Rock and Roll is soon to descend on the tiny village of Irondale for a fundraising double billing. Media marvel Reverend Dorian Baxter stars in a benefit concert as his famous Elvis Priestly persona, then conducts a Church Service in the Irondale Community Church in his ordained robes as the Archbishop of the Independent Anglican Church of Canada.

A lifelong Elvis Tribute Artist who stole the show at the Collingwood Elvis Festival in 1996, Dorian Baxter has a large fan following as a politician, an activist, and a performer. Fundraising and benefit concerts for organizations such as the Bark Lake Cultural Developments are very close to Reverend Baxter's heart.

Dorian Baxter rose to global fame when in 2003 he opened his Christ the King, Graceland Church in Newmarket as the newly named Archbishop of the Independent Anglican Church of Canada wearing his Elvis Priestly robes. 6,800 international papers featured the story on their front pages. He regularly appears on television and has a vocal skill of Elvis impersonation that is regarded as one of the best in the industry. What distinguishes Rev. Baxter from other entertainers is his philanthropy for fundraising.

Dorian Baxter has been awarded the Keys to the City of Memphis for his good works and has been declared the Bishop of Beale Street in Memphis. Baxter is invited annually to Graceland for Elvis Week.

The Elvis Priestly Benefit Concert is on Saturday November 29th at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open at 4:30 pm, a Christmas Turkey Dinner at 5:00 pm, and the show begins at 7 pm. Tickets are $35.00 each and the organizers expect a sold out event.

Tickets are purchased in advance by contacting Carol Simmons, President of the Bark Lake Cultural Developments at 705-457-8438 or online at www.IrondaleOntario.ca

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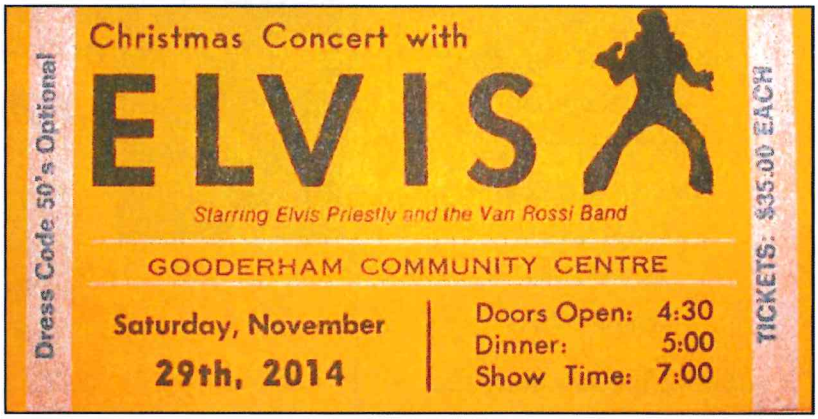
On Sunday November 30th, Reverend Dorian Baxter will conduct a Service at the Irondale Community Church at 10:00 am. The Church has a 100 seat capacity. Everyone of all denominations is welcome to attend and be part of this historical event.



Stay informed
www.IrondaleOntario.ca

Grandma's Old Recipes

We'd love to have you share your grandma's recipes.

Send us a picture of grandma and a copy of the recipe to P.O. Box 113 Irondale, ON K0M 1X0 or by email to irondalehistory@gmail.com

Come out for a friendly game of Euchre

Every Wednesday

Starts 7pm

$2 per person

Refreshments served

Lots of giggles and goofs

Irondale Calendar of Events

November 29 — Elvis Priestly & the Van Rossi Band entertain & an old fashioned Turkey Dinner More details on page two

November 30 — Christmas Service, conducted by Rev. Dorian Baxter, at Irondale's Church

January 1 — *Piece of the Puzzle* Campaign, goal to raise $95,000 see page seven for more details

February 15 — Old Fashioned Horse Drawn Sleigh Ride, more details to follow

March 15 — St. Patty's Breakfast, Irondale Community Centre More details on page seven

April 11 — First Fish & Fowl Feast Gooderham Community Centre More details on page six

April 25 — Who Lies Beneath — a Kinmount Cemetery Walk. Join our tour guides on a walk through time. Tickets $10 pp. Walk approx 1 1/2 hours.

May — Regular Sunday services resume at Irondale's Church

May 10 — Dr. Kirby & Guests entertain, 7 pm, Irondale's Church nice mix of music and history — $15 advance and $20 at the door.

'Give Me a Facelift' — May 16, 17, 18, 23 & 24 — your willing hands are welcome to join in the fun More details on page five

June 13 — Downton Abbey Tea, tickets $15, available now, location to be determined

June 20 — Food & Beverage Showcase, Wintergreen Pancake Barn, 3325 Gelert Rd., Minden, fundraiser for H.A.V.E (help a village effort) & a Haliburton County Charity. Irondale will be there. More details in spring issue.

July 18 — Annual Wild Game Dinner, Galway Hall, Tickets still $20, available now

July 25 — Irondale Community Centre's Annual Softball Tournament

August 1 — SDLCA's Annual General Meeting, check www.sdlca.ca for details

August 2 — SDLCA's Annual Canoe Race, check www.sdlca.ca for details

August 22 — Mine Tour, $10 pp, meet at Irondale's Church at 1pm –comfortable walking shoes & umbrella. Rain or shine. Refreshments served after tour.

September 17 to 20 — Hike Haliburton. Watch Haliburton County newspapers and websites for details of all kinds of guided hikes available

October 9—Irondale Bake Sale at the I.B.O. General Store property

October 10—Kinmount Bake Sale at the former Lucky's Gas Bar location

October 10 — Jessica Crego gets married at Irondale's Church

October 11 — Thanksgiving Service, 7 pm

November 28 — North Country Choir, 7 pm. This will be our Christmas Event. Refreshments will follow.

Raffle Winners ...

Janet Farina congratulates Susan Thompson (right) on her PEI cottage prize.

1st Choice went to ticket # 1010 — Susan Thompson, a long time three season resident on Salerno Lake. Sue chose the week accommodation at a private cottage in P.E.I. Seems the whole extended family wants in on that vacation— its only two bedrooms!

2nd Choice went to ticket # 802 — Craig Dennison of Cambridge. He chose the week accommodation in Great Village, Nova Scotia as his prize. Craig had been visiting the area when he purchased his ticket.

3rd Choice was ticket # 455—
Jacob 'Jake' Graham loved the idea of the camping equipment. He was already planning where to go when he picked up the new tent, sleeping bags, lawn chairs and lantern. Hope he waits for warmer weather!

4th Choice was ticket # 207—
Edie Forsyth, a seasonal resident of Jay Lake Campground in Minden. Edie bought her ticket from Carol Simmons on the Friday of Thanksgiving weekend. She was very happy to think the preceding winners didn't pick the quilt because the quilt was her number one choice! See pg 7 for more of her story.

Just over 800 tickets were sold for this raffle. THANK YOU to all who purchased tickets, thereby supporting the Bark Lake Cultural Developments.

How many are aware ...

Tom Kott had brought it to my attention—and I suspect others may have told me earlier, that there had been a Girl Guide camp on Salerno Lake. Details were sketchy so some research was in order.

Tom began by emailing the very few crumbs of information he had, to the Girl Guides of Ontario Archives. He was sent back a few points with a few pictures. Tom was able to identify a few people in one of the photos (see picture bottom of page 5) and has asked others to have a look through their albums for more pictures.

The cookhouse building was torn down after the camp closed. It was located near the east end of Procter Drive (Salerno Rd 20). The nurses log cabin is still standing and located north up the hill from the cookhouse on Bill Procter's property. The lane the runs past the cookhouse is how we got (and get) to our cottage.

The guides used to boat from the same area that Bill has his dock. For swimming they walked west from the camp and down to the lake on Copeland's property and onto a small island that had a sand beach. This island is located near Judy Steven's log cabin cottage. Back then the area north of the camp was open field where the girls tented (its all grown in now).

Points we have received to date from the Girl Guides of Ontario Archives

- First mention of camping at Irondale is in 1954
- sites were owned by two districts (not named) in Peel Division (in Hamilton area)
- camps were held for 10 day periods and that year 70 Guides in total attended the camp.
- in 1955, 246 Girl Guides attended the two district camps at Irondale
- 21 Guiders, along with a Camp Adviser and Training chairman assisted in staffing these camps
- in 1957, these sites were permanently established at Irondale
- 1960, the sites at Irondale are referred to as Camp Wabpashant and Camp Happy Acres
- 1961 both camps were filled to capacity
- 1962, Hamilton Area is split into two areas and Peel Division now falls under White Oaks Area.
- 1964, Camp Wabpashant closes, all supplies donated to the new area camp, Camp Wyoka (in Clifford, On).
- seems the Guides in Port Credit used the camp more than others in the area.

We will bring you more pictures and updates in future newsletters. If you have things to share, please do.

'Give Me a Facelift'
May 16, 17, 18, 23 & 24

This is your invitation.

We invite your willing hands to join in the fun. We will be scraping loose paint from the exterior of the church in preparation for a fresh new coat.

We would love to borrow soft wire brushes, tarps, paint scrapers, ladders and scaffolding. Be sure to label your items so that we can be sure to return them.

We could use a hand to prepare the refreshments and lunches for those working hard outside.

If you find you can spare a few hours (or more) on one of the dates above, just show up and we can put you to work.

The coffee pot will be on at 8 am.

Hope to see you then!

FaceLift

Friends *continued from pg 1*

High winds prevailed in favour of the raging fire. At different locations, the hoses were losing ground and danger of being trapped was evident. In fronts like this we unattached the hoses and each fire fighter dragged a 100 ft soaking hose (heavier) toward the lake to save them. The pumps were also carried out.

Dalyn Pickens, a long time employee of the Bark Lake Training Centre was in charge of bringing supplies and whatever else was needed from Gooderham. Also he operated a boat that transported fire fighters to locations on Bark Lake. In the evening the fire would slow down sufficient that the firefighters were brought back to camp by towing three war canoes that held 13 men each.

Rev. Urguart from the Anglican church in Wilberforce used his jeep to transport goods and carry messages back home. I had him ask my Dad to drive my car to the farm as the key was still in it.

Large bull dozer equipment was brought in to knock a swash of trees down to break a wide area—hopefully to slow the fire. At night we bunked in sleeping quarters in Bark Lake Camp.

On the third day I was stationed on the Bark Lake Road in blueberry country. An eating station was set up and a camp fire for cooking on had to be on the fire side of the road. Toward evening on the 3rd day I made it back to get some nutrition only to be told that the cook had taken off and I was put in charge.

With my minor cooking experience, I certainly didn't expect to put them to use. I was given a great helper. Jim Dewey, still a great guy, but very young then. To use the supplies available—21 loaves of unsliced bread, cases of tomatoes and beans, etc. etc. Everything was in the open and terribly dusty. I ask Dalyn to get a tent.

A large shallow pan fitted over the fire. Loaves of bread were broken and pressed into about one inch layers with tomatoes - a layer of bread and beans—a layer of bread etc. and cooked to perfection. Many families from Kinmount to Gooderham raved about the tasty results as finger licking good.

I am pleased to say the fire was put out by rain Friday night. We were a grubby bunch, no bath and no fancy privy, but Irondale was saved and the blueberries grow on.

Thank You to Ken Sanderson of Wilberforce for sending us the article. It is great to get first hand remembrances.

Editor's note : Love to get your stories. If you would rather—you can tell me the points and I'll write it.

Girl Guide Camp cont'd

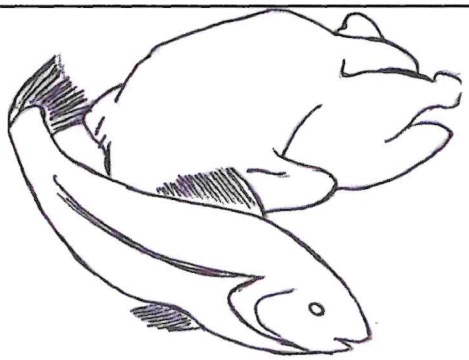
Tom Kott writes -
Boy on left is my cousin Harold Sutton Jr. (he lives in Dorset with his wife Mary). The woman next to Harold Jr. is my Aunt Helen Sutton nee Snor, my Mom's sister. The man to the extreme right is Harold Sutton Sr. (my Aunt's husband). He was a family doctor in the Port Credit area.
In front row lady on left is Mary Fitzgibbon, a longtime family friend of Harold and Helen.

Helen Sutton and Mary Fitzgibbon were Guide Leaders.

Purple Paradise

Carol Simmons (left) helps Edie Forsyth (right) display the quilt for the camera

I always think it is important to be grateful for what you receive, and today I am truly grateful for winning the Queen Size Quilt in the Bark Lake Cultural Development's 2014 Raffle.
There is a bit of a story to the meaningfulness of the quilt.
Last week I happened to run into Carol and we got talking about butter tarts. Upon telling her how much I love butter tarts, she explained that if I bought three raffle tickets, she would give me a free butter tart. Now I was all in for that and quickly got out my money. I left and later delved into my butter tart. It was delicious and brought back fond memories of my Mother-in-law Bev, who passed away four months ago from Leukemia. You see Bev was the Queen of Butter Tarts. She would make 6 dozen at a time to give to her family and friends. Everyone knew her for her tarts. All day I got this nagging feeling that I needed to go back and tell Carol how awesome her tarts were and thank her. So back I went and told her my story.
On Monday, the day of the draw, I said to my husband "I just know your Mom is going to make sure I win that quilt so that we keep remembering her." Well didn't I get a call saying I had won the quilt. I phoned Bev's daughter to tell her my news. She was flabbergasted, as I had already told her the butter tart story. Then she commented "wouldn't it be funny if the quilt had purple in it because that's Mom's favourite colour?" Well not only does the quilt have purple in it but is called "Purple Paradise." I am so grateful for my gift. All of you ladies that worked so hard to create this beautiful work of art, know that it has a very special meaning and will be truly treasured for years to come!! Thank you Universe and thank you Bev for letting us know all is good in your purple paradise!
Edie Forsyth



First

FISH & FOWL FEAST

April 11, 2015

Gooderham Community Centre

Doors open at 5 Feast at 6

Bring your Loonies

Be Prepared to Raise Your Hand

Cash Bar

Tickets just $20 per person

ELVIS

CHRISTMAS DINNER, DANCE & SHOW

Starring

Elvis Priestly & the Van Rossi Band

SATURDAY, NOV. 29, 2014

GOODERHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE
1043 Community Centre Rd at County Rds 503 & 507

DOORS OPEN
4:30 P.M.
DINNER SERVED
5:00 P.M.
SHOW STARTS
7:00 P.M.

50'S ATTIRE
COMPLETELY OPTIONAL

$35 per person

For Tickets: Call/Text 705-457-8438
Purchase Online at www.IrondaleOntario.ca

ALL PROCEEDS TO
BARK LAKE CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS
~PRESERVING IRONDALE'S HISTORICAL CHURCH ~

Proudly Sponsored By:

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~ Peter & Klara Oyler ~ Rick & Deb Mansfield ~ Pat Miller ~ Fred & Carol Simmons ~

Piece of the Puzzle Campaign

You will have noticed that restoration of Irondale's church property has been slow moving. This is due to the fact there is a 'hefty' mortgage tying up the finances. Private lenders have been holding the mortgage with payments covering interest only. The fundraising to date has been making those payments and paying utility bills.

An amount has been set aside that we wish to grow — to add to. Ideally we would love to pay the private lenders all their money in August — only 8 months away. That would leave all fundraising monies to promote the history and restore the church.

The plan is to house museum type displays of Irondale's history in the adjoining hall. That space requires updated wiring, more insulation and furnace ductwork to replace the baseboard heating. We have been given some funds for the hall work and will be seeking funding from grant sources.

Are you a piece of the puzzle? There is a large picture of the church covered in puzzle pieces. This picture will be on the website as well as at all Irondale functions - so you can stay on top of the progress.

For every $500 donated and/or fundraised between now and July 30 — a piece of the church will be exposed. **We are asking you to consider making a monetary donation specifically for the mortgage.** All donations will be acknowledged with a personal thank you letter, a receipt you can use for income tax purposes and displayed on the designated metal tree structures. All donors of $200 or more (accumulated amount) will be displayed.

You will find a specific donation card at the end of the newsletter (if you receive yours by email) or included in the envelope if you receive yours by Canada Post. Our goal is to raise the $95,000 by July 31. It is possible!

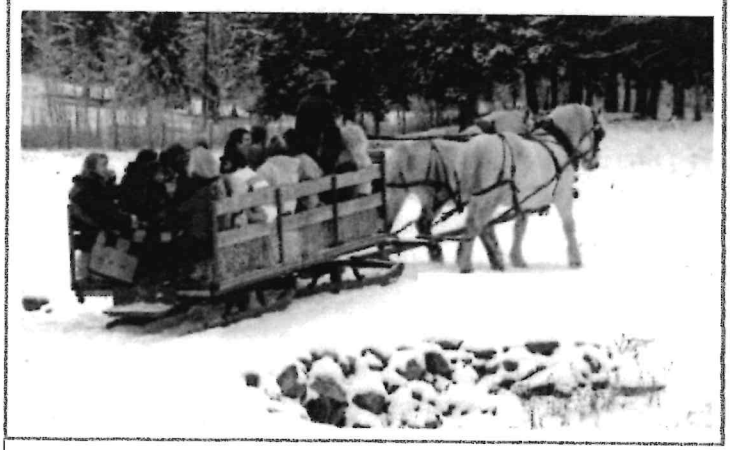
Remember to keep checking the website <www.IrondaleOntario.ca> and look for the framed picture puzzle at all functions. See how much of the church has been exposed.

www.IrondaleOntario.ca

Celebrate
Valentines Day and Family Weekend
Invite
your family, friends & neighbours
to enjoy an

Old Fashioned Horse Drawn Sleigh Ride

Sunday afternoon, February 15, 2015
Watch for signage at the IBO General Store
and on www.IrondaleOntario.ca



Join Us For A
St. Patrick's Day
Breakfast

Sunday March 15, 2015

Irondale's Community Centre

Bangers, Rashers, Eggs,
Beans, Cheese & Bread, Coffee

9 am — 11 am

$12 per person

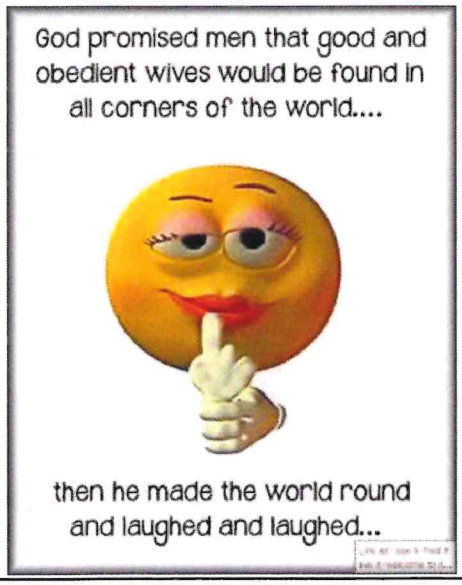
Wear green
and receive ballot for
Special Draw

Irondale Word Search

A A L S D K T R K G N C I F D
B E O S E E R E N C O I O Q S
O K I E U A V A E T O R A L C
R A X R B L K I T R E C L R S
I L M T O L P A L S T A N N T
G E A S Z N G H T S F S O A Z
I T R I Z E M F U E C M M E H
N I Y M S P I I C R M R E L S
A H A T J R D A N I G M E K E
L W N S E L N L S E X I B E O
W V N O X R S E L R A H C N K
X D E P U S E I L F K C A L B
X A I F M O S Q U I T O S N C
G E N E R A L S T O R E L E V
D I O C E S E T I P N E P O X

Find these words in the puzzle above

ABORIGINAL	BARR	BLACKFLIES
CHARLES	COTTAGES	DEVILSCREEK
DIOCESE	ELMSTREET	FORESTFIRE
FURNACEFALLS	GENERALSTORE	HANCOCK
IRONMINE	MARYANNE	MOSQUITOS
OPENPIT	POSTMISTRESS	SIMMONS
SULPHUR	TRAIN	WHITELAKE


God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the world....
then he made the world round and laughed and laughed...

Dear Ancestor

"Your tombstone stands among the rest
Neglected and alone.
The name and date are chiseled out
On polished marble stone.
It reaches out to all who care
It is too late to mourn.

You did not know that I exist
You died and I was born.
Yet each of us are cells of you
In flesh and blood and bone.
Our blood contracts and beats a pulse
Entirely not our own.

Dear Ancestor, the place you filled
One hundred years ago.
Spreads out among the ones you left
Who would have loved you so.
I wonder how you lived and loved
I wonder if you knew.
That someday I would find this spot
And come to visit you."

-Walter Butler Palmer

A Country Doctor — October 1973 – To Dr. Jamieson

A few years ago God gave us a friend
Although night and day she worked to no end
In winter and summer it was just the same
And life was surely a not-stop game.

In the middle of the night, the 'phone would ring
And she always answers "Hello",
And though you are many miles away,
She will surely be with you, I know.

So she gets in her car, and away she would go,
Although she has had little rest,
She gives you some pills for your aches and pains.
And she knows just what is the best.

Sometimes she goes on the train maybe,
And sometimes she may even walk,
But always she'll find you, no matter how far,
And listen to your gabble and talk.

She is one of our great country doctors,
And Agnes Jamieson is her name –
We don't find this kind of doctor today,
With all of her wisdom and fame.

Most of them don't give a hoot for you,
And are paid mighty well, for the little they do,
So God Bless our Friend for her wonderful work,
And give her a special place in Heaven.

Poem was written by Grace (Hancock) Simmons